



ELVES SPECIAL NEEDS SOCIETY
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July 09, 2020

Dear Elves' Families, Caregivers, and Staff:

As we continue to adjust to the new methods of interaction within our environment either within our homes or the greater community, we may still find ourselves feeling uneasy. The changes in our environment have created the need for us to adjust to new ways of interaction and consider how we can help both ourselves and others around us feel calm and increasingly regulated.

Dr. Stephen Porges addresses why we may feel uneasy and offers practical methods to feel more stable and connect with others in this short video Nourish Your Nervous System: https://www.spdstar.org/blog?_zs=rQiLe1&_zl=6Ihu6

Elves Summer Program

Summer Program is underway. We understand that there are numerous families who wished to have their children in the Program. As this has been a unique year, we were only able to accommodate a limited number of children where priority and approval was offered to families who had signed agreements before June 26, 2020. We apologize if your child may not have been placed in the 11 available spots, but we anticipate return to normal operations in the upcoming year.

If you are looking for activities for your family, please contact the Elves Social Workers who may be able offer ideas for some alternative activities over the summer.

Elves FASD Respite Program

Edmonton Fetal Alcohol Network and the CanFASD offers on-line resources to families and individuals impacted with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder.

There will be a session that will be held on **July 10, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. MST** with Dr. Dorothy Badry, the CanFASD's Child Welfare Research Lead who will be discussing loss, grief and resilience in relation to those impacted by FASD. Please click the link below to register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_M7tbDrHTQ9yJjyF3bXQsg

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Elves Adult & Youth Centre
10419-159 Street
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Phone: 780.481.5335
Fax: 780.483.5316
Email: adultprogram@elves-society.com

Elves' Satellite Location
14205 – 109 Avenue
EDMONTON AB T5N 1H5
Phone: 780.484.3078
Fax: 780.484.5903
Email: room9@elves-society.com

If you cannot register or wish to access other webinars associated with the CanFASD Webinar Series, the Edmonton Fetal Alcohol Network also has a link to that session and a presentation by Dr. Jacqueline Pei which can be found at:

<https://edmontonfetalalcoholnetwork.org/2020/06/26/canfasd-new-webinar-loss-grief-and-fasd/>

If it is safe to do so, Elves is hoping to offer modified levels of on-site services for children in the fall. Families who wish to be considered for services beginning September 2020 should contact Raelee Grier (Program Coordinator) or Rosathya Ros (Family Support Worker) at 780-453-5310. Families may also email Raelee at respite@elves-society.com or Rosathya at sw3@elves-society.com.

Elves Adult Program

As Elves is anticipating to open the Adult Program to more clients, there will be a Town Hall to update families about the At Elves component of services delivery which was offered since June 15, 2020. Families are welcomed to attend the meeting or invite others who may be serving your child and require access to the information.

The At Elves Town Hall will be held on Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting link is <https://meet.google.com/cpx-rthh-mhg>.

If you are unable to join the meeting via phone, please contact Connie Daynes the moderator via phone at 780 481-5335 or via email aaycactivitycoordinator@elves-society.com.

Adult Program continues to serve clients through digital, in-home, and site-based services. We are anticipating opening the Program to serve up to three clients per room at Elves. Staff continue to use personal protective equipment and there is an enhanced cleaning and disinfection regime in place, in addition to the distancing and meal-related restrictions.

Other Alberta Government/Federal Government Information:

- Masks were being distributed to Alberta through drive-thru's at several fast food restaurants. While this initiative was paused, it may be reinstated mid-July. If you requiring masks, you can also contact 211 or one to the groups that has been contracted to support the Masks for Albertans program:

<https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/covid19-mask-community-distribution-list.pdf>

As we enter the summer months there may be more visitors to or traveling within Alberta or amongst provinces. Guidelines are located at <https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-travel-advice.aspx>.

There is also a COVID-19 relaunch status map and notifications that outlines areas where additional measures may be needed to avoid or address local outbreaks. <https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-relaunch-strategy.aspx>

- Alberta Health Services COVID-19 Self-Assessments continue to be available for those persons who are concerned about being impacted by COVID-19 or who may wish to be tested as a precautionary measure. To schedule a time for a drive-through assessment, please complete the Self-Assessment Questionnaire and schedule a time. The updated assessment site can be found at: <https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/COVID-Self-Assessment.aspx> or by calling Health Link at 811.

Contact Elves

We are here if you need support. All questions can be forwarded to the program that is serving your child.

School Program at execassistant@elves-society.com

Adult Program at adultprogram@elves-society.com

Respite Program at respite@elves-society.com

Warmest wishes,



Barb Tymchak Olafson
Executive Director